

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 /064 W
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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2443
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2499

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, CG, AO
SUBJECT: VISIT OF UNHCR DEPUTY JAEGER

REF: KINSHASA 2286

1. UNHCR DEPUTY JAEGER SAW AMBASSADOR MARCH 17 AND DISCUSSED
RECENT TRIP TO TSHELA REGION. FOLLOWING ARE THE POINTS HE COVERED:

2. HE FOUND SITUATION IN TSHELA REGION SOMEWHAT IMPROVED AS
RESULT OF ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED BY IRC AND OTHER AGENCIES.
SINCE LOCAL UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE'S VISIT TO THE REGION IN
FEBRUARY, HE SAID UNHCR HAD NOW SENT SOME 24 TONS OF
FOOD TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE REGION.

3. AS A RESULT OF HIS VISIT, HE HAS DECIDED TO
INCREASE UNHCR ACTIVITY IN THE TSHELA REGION
ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

- (A) SLOW DOWN DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD IN MOANDA SINCE THE
NEED THERE IS NO LONGER WHAT IT USED TO BE;
- (B) INCREASE ACTIVITIES IN THE ZONES OF LUKULA AND TSHELA;
- (C) THE OPERATING AGENCY FOR UNHCR, AIDR, WHICH NOW HAS ITS
OFFICE LOCATED IN MOANDA, WILL MOVE TO EITHER TSHELA OR BOMA.
- (D) UNHCR WILL EVALUATE THE NEEDS OF THE KARYI-TEMBE REFUGEE CAMP
WHICH IS NOT FAR FROM KUIMBA HOSPITAL. THIS EVALUATION WILL COVER
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FOOD, CLOTHING, EDUCATION, TOOLS, SEEDS, HEALTH, ETC.
(E) UNHCR WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO KUIMBA HOSPITAL
WHICH IS CURRENTLY TREATING CHILDREN FOR FREE.

4. JAEGER SAID THAT IN INCREASING ITS ACTIVITY IN THE TSHELA
REGION, UNHCR WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE WITH EXTREME CAUTION
PARTICULARLY WHICH RESPECT TO PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES

WHO ARE TOO CLOSE TO THE CABINDAN-ZAIRIAN BORDER. ASSISTANCE WILL GO TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE AT LEAST 20-30 KMS FROM THE BORDER. HE ESTIMATES THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN THE WHOLE REGION TO BE BETWEEN 20-25,000 AND HE SAID THAT UNHCR WILL CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS IN THOSE AREAS WHERE THERE ARE NEWLY ARRIVED REFUGEES. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE NOTED THAT IN ONE OF THE DISTRICTS THERE WERE BETWEEN 300-350 NEW CASES WHO HAD CROSSED THE BORDER. FINALLY HE SAID THAT UNHCR WILL TRY TO KEEP BETTER LIAISON WITH IRC, ECZ, AND THE CATHOLICS, ALL OF WHOM ARE PROVIDING RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO THE REFUGEES.

5. BEFORE LEAVING JAEGER SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT NOEL HAD NOT HANDLED THE SITUATION PROPERLY IN THE PAST. JAEGER WAS EQUALLY CONFIDENT HOWEVER, THAT NOEL WILL CARRY OUT THE NEW PROGRAM THAT HE HAD JUST OUTLINED. HE NOTED THAT NOEL WAS INTELLIGENT BUT A DIFFICULT PERSON TO GET ALONG WITH. HE EXPECTED DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN NOEL AND IRC REPRESENTATIVE ERJAVEC TO CONTINUE BUT HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO WORK OUT A MORE SATISFACTORY MODUS VIVENDI.

6. JAEGER SAID HE WAS RETURNING TO GENEVA BUT WAS PLANNING TO GO TO LUANDA AT A LATER DATE. IN THIS CONNECTION HE SAID THE LUANDAN GOVERNMENT HAD INDICATED IT WOULD BE WILLING TO RECEIVE HIM IN PRINCIPLE.

7. COMMENT: JAEGER FLEW DOWN TO TSHELA REGION IN THE COMPANY OF AN OFFICIAL FROM THE DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ANOTHER FROM THE DEPT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS. ALTHOUGH HE ADMITTED HE SPENT A LIMITED TIME IN THE AREA, HE CLEARLY SEEMED TO GRASP THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PROBLEMS OF THE SITUATION. HE IS OPTIMISTIC THE PROGRAM HE HAS OUTLINED WILL WORK; NEVERTHELESS HE HAS SUGGESTED THAT WE KEEP HIM INFORMED ON ANY PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT ARISE. AS HE WAS LEAVING THE EMBASSY HE INTIMATED TO POLCOUNS THAT IT POSSIBLE NOEL MAY SOON BE LEAVING. IMPRESSION WAS, HOWEVER, THAT DECISION HAD NOT YET BEEN REACHED.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 20-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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